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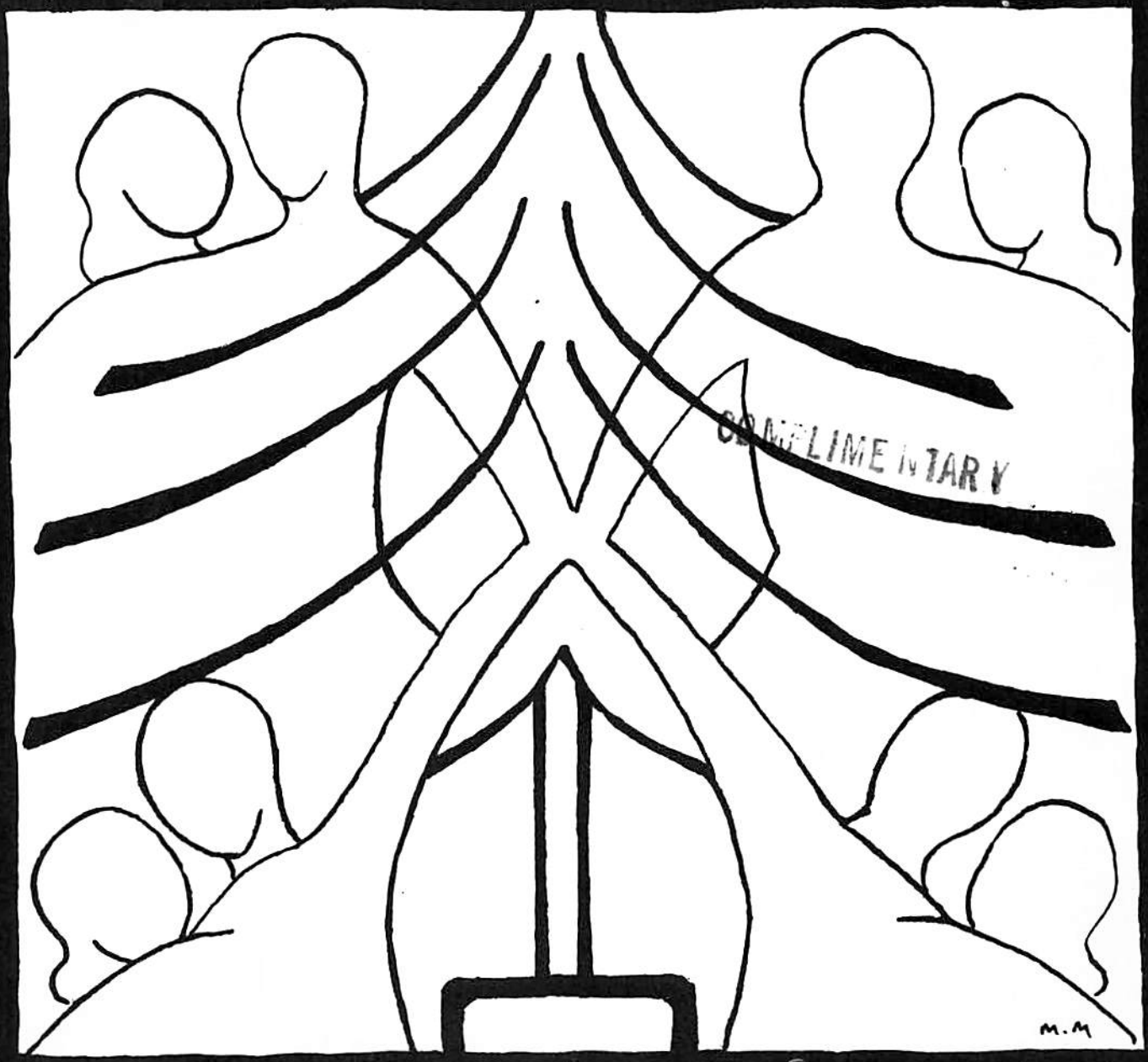
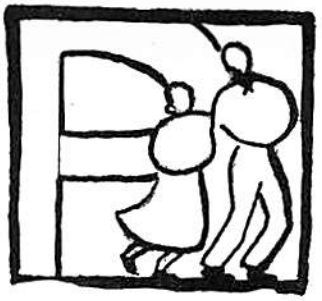


COMPLIMENTARY

THE AMERICAN SQUARE DANCE GROUP

NEW YORK, N.Y.



"The purpose of the American Square Dance Group is to make available those rich stores of native dance, music, and general Americana which comprise American folk culture; to conduct activities without regard to race, creed, color or social position; to cooperate with those who hold similar views."

Constitution of the A.S.D.G.

Margot Mayo, Editor
Donald Nelson, David Farjeon
Freddie Goldstein, Bob Krebs
Elvira Roth

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AMERICAN SQUARE DANCE GROUP

AMERICAN SQUARE DANCE GROUP NEWS

In our organization, as in most clubs these days, we have a continuous grand change of members. This season is typical. ASDGers Marc and Benita Nerenstone are back in the city, and are active again in the Group. George Gellican is in the armed services and Emilia Baque, who helped us so much with the Catalan dances, has had to drop temporarily from active membership. However, Joan Brock is still patiently working with us. Renee Rosenbaum is making her home in Charleston, S. C. and Gerrit Smith has moved to San Francisco. Gerrit has been in the Group about 18 years and we certainly feel lost without him.

We are happy, though, to welcome as new members Svea Magnusson, Bob Sloane, Eva Schonberger, Rose Spiro, Elsie Cohen, Lillian Engelman, Felice Goldsmith, Marie Aronson, Sam Goldstein and Judy Jacobs.

The ASDG Song Group is concentrating on early American shape-note hymns and temperance songs as well as folk songs.

The Second Annual Israeli Folk Dance Festival will be held at Hunter College Auditorium, Sunday evening, January 4 at 8:30. The Festival will again be a competition between various youth groups who specialize in Israeli dancing. The American Square Dance Group is very proud to have been invited to present American dances in the Festival as we did last year.

KENTUCKY TALK

My Kentucky mountain kinfolk'd be considerably surprised if they knew how much pleasure their conversations have given me. Here are a few of their everyday expressions which tickle me and which somehow make me feel very close to the pioneers who built our country.

"What fer? Cat's fur, to make kittens' britches!"

"As fast as you kin say bread, with your mouth open."

"She's cousin-kin of mine."

"Every time he bends his elbows he opens his mouth." (glutton)

"I'd fret if she don't crave eddication."

"Ain't a-raining today, just a-smirring nasty."

"Hit eats my bones, jest feeling the day."

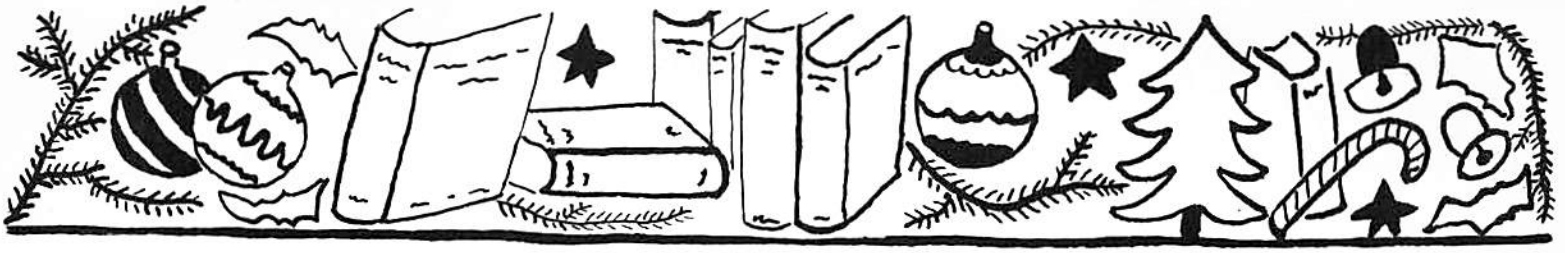
"Liefer I would hear them talk than sing."

"Don't uneasy yourself about me."

And now, as my people say, "No use to plague myself with fading memories." And,

"I give you good-day!"

Margot

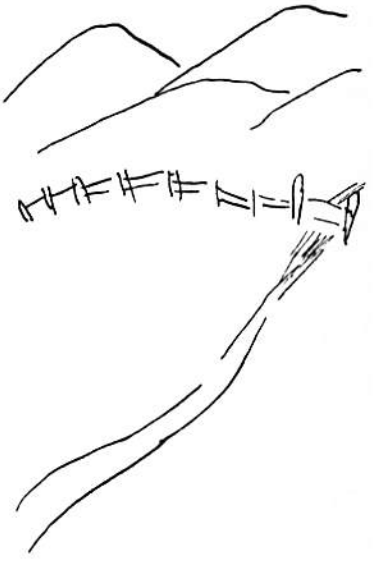


Every year thousands of books are published and your library, which a few months back may have contained everything available on a chosen subject may now be out of date. Below are a few of the books published in the past few months which we think might interest a folklorist. In some cases they represent new material on a familiar subject, as Benjamin Thomas's examination of the Robert Todd Lincoln papers; in other instances they represent a little more of a good thing from a master, as in Vance Randolph's new collection of Ozark stories. In every case, they are books which will bring you much valuable information and a good deal of enjoyment. If you are interested in the basic books of a folklore library, refer to PROMENADE, Volume VII, issues 3,4,5, published in January, 1949.

Boni, Margaret	THE FIRESIDE BOOK OF FAVORITE AMERICAN SONGS Simon & Schuster, New York City	$3.95
Botkin, Ben	A TREASURY OF WESTERN FOLKLORE Crown Publishers, New York City	$4.00
Dobie, J. Frank	THE MUSTANGS Little, Brown & Co., New York City	$6.00
Dorson, Richard	BLOODSTOPPERS AND BEARWALKERS Harvard University Press, Cambridge	$5.00
Gorsline, Douglas	WHAT PEOPLE WORE Wittenborn, New York City	$7.50
Hoffman, Daniel	PAUL BUNYON: LAST OF THE FRONTIER DEMI GODS University of Pennsylvania Press	$4.50
Kraus, Richard	SQUARE DANCES OF TODAY AND HOW TO TEACH AND CALL THEM A. S. Barnes & Co., New York City	$3.00
Miller, Joseph comp. & ed.	THE ARIZONA STORY Hastings House, New York City	$5.00
Randolph, Vance	WHO BLOWED UP THE CHURCH HOUSE AND OTHER OZARK FOLK TALES Columbia University Press, New York City	$3.50
Thomas, Benjamin	ABRAHAM LINCOLN Alfred A. Knopf, New York City	$5.75
Wood, Ray	FUN IN AMERICAN FOLK RHYMES J. B. Lipincott, New York City	$2.50

Children's Books

Brown, John Mason	DANIEL BOONE Random House, New York City	$1.50
Deutsch, Babette & Yarmolinsky, Avrahm	TALES OF FARAWAY FOLK Harper & Brothers, New York City	$2.25
Malcomson, Ann & McCormick, Dell J.	MISTER STORMALONG Houghton Miflin Co.	$2.25
Ritchie, Jean	THE SWAPPING SONG BOOK Oxford University Press, New York City	$2.75



FOLK MUSIC ON THE RADIO

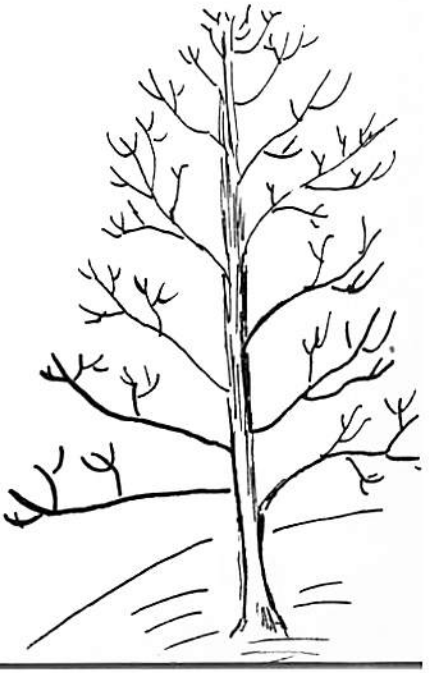
Radio stations are once again becoming folklore conscious. There are several good programs currently broadcast in the Metropolitan area.

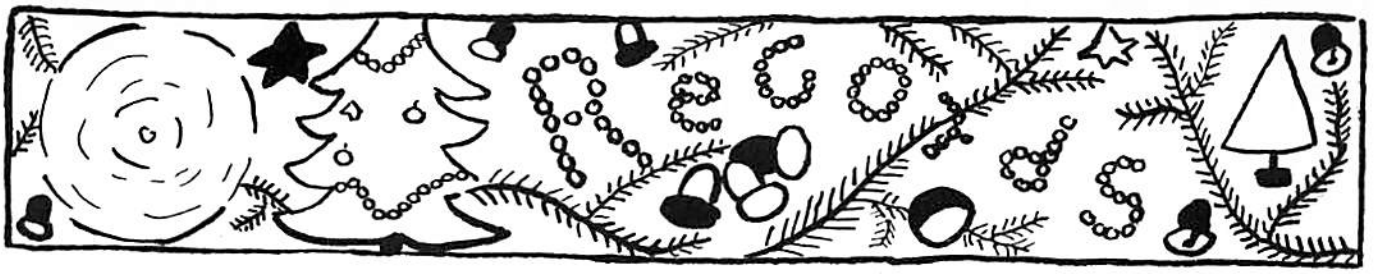
Folk Fare: WINS Monday through Saturday, 8-10 P. M. Stan Byrnes and Paul Sherman. Square dances, folk songs, hillbilly music, announcements of square dance events in the Metropolitan area.

America's Wandering Minstrel: WINS Monday through Friday, 10:15 -10:30 P. M. Paul Arnold. Lovely voice, usually presents an excellent program of folk songs.

Folk Song Festival: WNYC Sunday, 6-6:30 P. M. Oscar Brand, Betty McDonald and others. Singing, banjo tunes, guests with interesting material.

Nights in Latin America : WQXR Mondays and Fridays, 10-10:30 P.M. Pru Devin. Music, folklore from Central and South Americas.





The problem of where to buy "hard-to-find" recordings of folk music has finally been solved with the opening of THE RECORD LOFT, 189 W. Tenth Street, New York City. The shop deals in folk and ethnic music only; Paul Rickolt and Jac Holzman, the proprietors, claim it is "the only exclusively folk music shop in the nation!" In addition to selling all the standard recordings of folk music, THE RECORD LOFT has set up a small record company of their own. They have recently pressed two 10" LP recordings, one of Frank Warner and one of Jean Ritchie, which gets them off to an excellent start. THE RECORD LOFT will mail records, the unbreakable ones that is, anywhere in the country, and if you are unsure of the name, artist or publisher of a record, they will do their best to help you out. Their catalogue is available by mail for 10¢ (deductible from your first purchase incidentally), but if you live in or around New York, why not drop in and see this wonderful store for yourself. Below are a few of the listings from the current catalogue of THE RECORD LOFT which particularly interested us.

Bailey, Charity	MUSIC TIME Folkways FP 7 10" LP	$3.12
Clark, Edgar "Rogie"	LEGEND OF JOHN HENRY Allegro LA 8 10" LP	$3.12
	SONGS AND PIPES OF THE HEBRIDES Folkways Ethnic Library P430 12" LP	$4.17
	IRISH POPULAR DANCES Folkways FP 18 10" LP	$3.12
Kraber, Tony	THE OLD CHISHOLM TRAIL Mercury MG 20008 12" LP	$3.47
Mills, Alan	FRENCH CANADIAN FOLK SONGS Folkways FP 29 10" LP	$3.12
Olf, Mark	JEWISH FOLK SONGS Folkways FP 26 10" LP	$3.12
Ritchie, Jean	KENTUCKY MOUNTAIN SONGS Elektra EKLP 2 10" LP	$3.12
Summers, Andrew Rowan	THE UNQUIET GRAVE Folkways FP 64 12" LP	$3.12
White, Josh	BALLADS AND BLUES Decca DL 5082 10" LP	$2.85

The Saratoga

This dance was collected last summer by group member, Bob Krebs, who learned it in Big Indian, New York. The musicians told Bob that the music of the second figure of any quadrille would fit this dance, but we have found that most square dance tunes will do.

CALLS

Introduction:

1. Everybody balance in
   Once again you balance in

2. Turn your corner once around
   Turn your partner once around

3. Promenade your partner round

Figure:

4. Heads to the right and forward and back

5. Forward again with a right and left through
   Right and left back on the same old track

6. Chain the ladies across the track
   Chain the ladies back to town

7. Turn your corner once around
   Promenade your corner once around

Repeat the figure (4-7) for the heads.

Chorus:

8. Do-si-do your corner round
   Do-si-do your partner round

9. Turn your corner lady round
   Turn your partner once around

10. Promenade your partner round

Repeat the figure (4-7) twice for the side couples.
End with the chorus (8-10).

(continued on next page)

DESCRIPTIONS

Introduction:

1. All join hands, take four steps forward and four steps backward. Repeat.

2. Each gent face the lady on your left, each lady face the gent on your right. Join hands, straight across and turn in a clockwise direction. Return to original places. Repeat turn with your partner.

3. Partners join hands, left in left, right in right, above left. All move counterclodkwise around the set with gents on the inside. Return to your original places.

Figure:

4. Couple one face couple two, couple three face couple four so that two diagonal lines of four people are formed. Take four steps forward and four steps backward into place.

5. The same couples move forward and pass your opposite by the right shoulder. Ladies move through the dancers of the opposite couple. As soon as you pass, gents take your partner's left hand in yours, place your right hand at her waist and turn with the gents moving backward. Repeat the figure so you are in your original places.

6. The same couples face. Ladies move forward, join right hands and pass, joining left hands with your opposite gents. Gents place your right hand on the lady's waist and turn her, moving backwards. Repeat so that the ladies are in their original places.

7. Square the set. Gents face your corner lady and turn her once with the two-hand turn. Promenade that lady, returning to the gent s place.

Chorus:

8. Gents face your corner lady, pass right shoulders, go around her passing back to back. Return to place. Face partners and repeat.

9. Turn your corner with the two-hand turn. Turn your partner with the two-hand turn.

10. Promenade your partner.

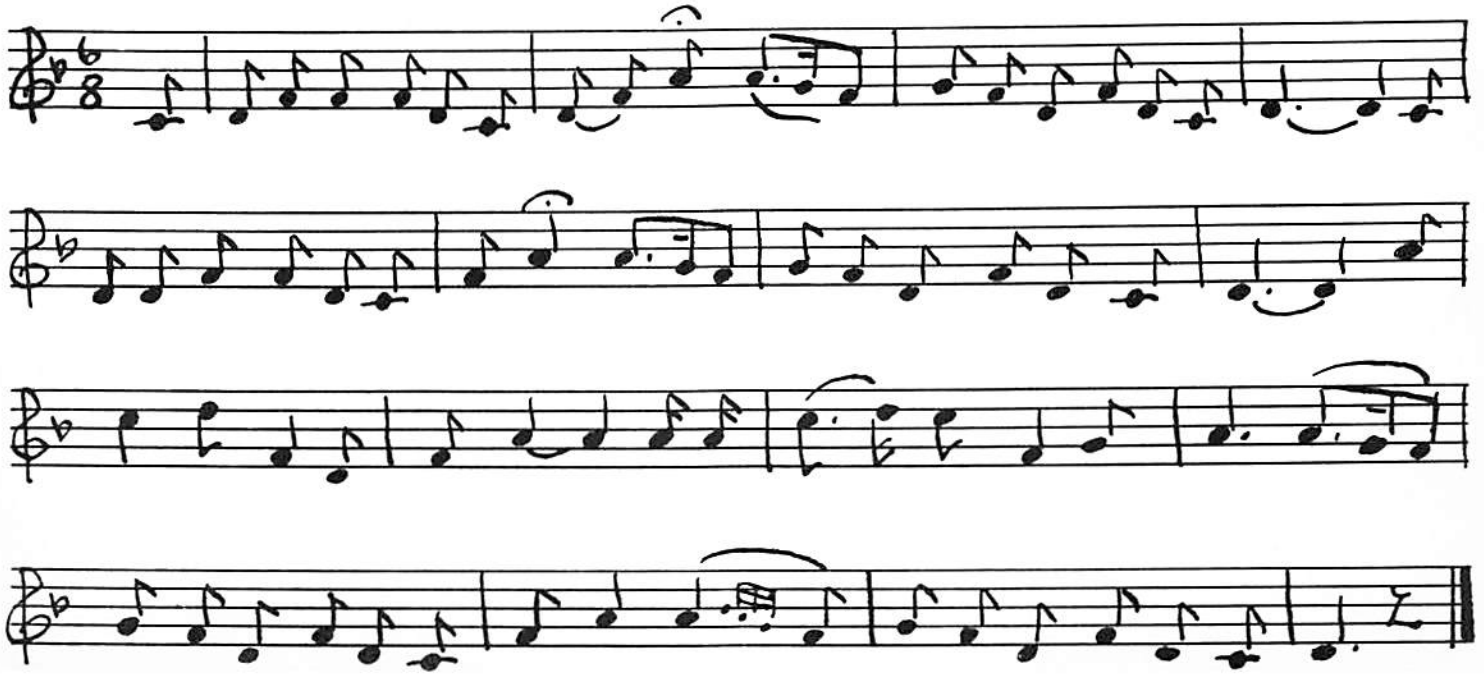
The Poor Pilgrim of Sorrow

This song was collected by Margot from the singing of Aunt Liddy Walker, of Rudd Holler, Tennessee, during the summer of 1935. Aunt Liddy told Margot that the song was composed by "Preacher" Carmack, who apparently became involved in some unpleasantness concerning a local girl. However, this version of the origin of this lovely song is not quite accurate, for the song is found, in practically the same form, among the very beautiful songs of the American Negro.

I am a poor pilgrim of sorrow, tossed out in this wide world alone.
No hopes in this world for tomorrow, I've started to hunt me a home.
Sometimes I'm tossed and driven, til I don't know where to roam,
I've heard of a city called Heaven, I've started to make it my home.

While rambling this wide world of sorrow, no comfort nor cheerings have I.
I've come through many hard trials, Lord shall I now perish and die?
Sometimes I'm tossed and driven, til I don't know where to roam,
I've heard of a city called Heaven, I've started to make it my home.

My mother has gone to that bright city, my father's still living in sin,
My brothers and sisters won't own me because I am trying to win.
Sometimes I'm tossed and driven, til I don't know where to roam,
I've heard of a city called Heaven, I've started to make it my home.

Hark, what is that a-coming, the blood runs cold in my veins!
But Jesus will smooth the garden and pilot me through as I go.
Sometimes I'm tossed and driven, til I don't know where to roam,
I've heard of a city called Heaven, I've started to make it my home.

I soon shall reach that bright city where pilgrims no more complain.
The old ship of Zion is coming, the Captain is calling my name.
Sometimes I'm tossed and driven, til I don't know where to roam,
I've heard of a city called Heaven, I've started to make it my home.